MELFORD RURAL DISTRICT

in the

Administrative County of West Suffolk

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

including the

Report of the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year

1970

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To the Chairman and Members of the

Melford Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Public Health Services for the year, 1970.

I am grateful to the Chairman of the Council and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their courtesy to me.

I am grateful also to the Clerk of the Council, the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector and his staff and other Council officials for their help to me during the year.

Your obedient Servant

Edward Kinnear.

Medical Officer of Health

NOVEMBER, 1971

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(May 1970 - May 1971)

Chairman: Mr. R.C. Smith

Vice-Chairman: Mr. C.R. Kingston

Mrs. G.M.S. Ardley

Mrs. M.A Bridges

Mrs. S.M. Byham

Mr. D.G.D. Dawson

Mr. H.F.A. Engleheart, M.A.

Miss B.E.H. Finch

Mr. G.J.C. Ince

Mr. J.P. Ince

Mrs. E.E. Marshall

Mr. B.G. Poole

Mr. G.H. Ripley

Mrs. L.G.M. Seabrook

Mr. M. Vinson

Mr. H.V. Wheeler

Mrs. E.L. York

Mr. W.H. Bett.

Mrs. P.M. Hetherington, M.A.

Mr. J.A. Newton.

Mr. R.W. Partridge.

Mr. J. Piper.

Commander F.L. Whitehouse, O.B.E., R.N., is the Chairman of the Melford Rural District Council

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS

(Figures in brackets relate to the previous year.)

Area of the District		47,270 acres.
Rateable Value (Year ending March, 1971)	£573,147	(£546,101)
Sum represented by a New Penny Rate (1p.)	£5,366	(£2,165.12.3.)
Number of inhabited houses	7,020	(6,825)
Population (Registrar-General's estimate)	19,990	(19,030)

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	366 (382)	188 (204)	178 (178)
Illegitimate	17 (13)	10 (7)	7 (6)
Total:	383 (395)	198 (211)	185 (184)

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population (adjusted) (Area Comparbility Factor = 0.99)	19.0	(21.0)
Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	16.0	(16.3)
Illigitimate birth rate	4%	(3%)

Stillbirths:

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	1 (7)	- (5)	1 (2)
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Total:	1 (7)	- (5)	1 (2)

Total Live and Stillbirths:

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	367 (389)	189 (209)	178 (180)
Illegitimate	17 (13)	10 (7)	7 (6)
Total:	384 (402)	199 (216)	185 (186)

Deaths:

Total	Male	Female
182 (195)	82 (100)	100 (95)

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (adjusted) (Area Comparability Factor = 1.09) 9.9 (10.1)

Death rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales) 11.7 (11.9)

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	Nil (Nil)
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	Nil (Nil)

Infant Mortality Number of deaths of infants under one year of age.

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	6 (7)	5 (5)	1 (2)
Illegitimate	2 (-)	- (-)	2 (-)
Total:	8 (7)	5 (5)	3 (2)

Death rate of infants under one year of age:

(a) Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	21.0 (18.0)
(b) Infant Mortality rate England and Wales	18.0 (18.0)

Neo-Natal Mortality Number of deaths of infants under four weeks of age.

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	6 (4)	5 (2)	1 (2)
Illegitimate	2 (-)	- (-)	2 (-)
Total:	8 (4)	5 (2)	3 (2)

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Number of infants under one week of age.

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	5 (4)	4 (2)	1 (2)
Illegitimate	2 (-)	- (-)	2 (-)
Total:	7 (4)	4 (2)	3 (2)

Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined, per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) 21.0 (27.0)

The causes of the eight infant deaths were as follows:-

Sex	Age	Cause of death
M	2 hours	Prematurity, respiratory failure
F	6 hours	Prematurity, respiratory distress
F	11 hours	Prematurity, Hyaline membrane disease
M	11 hours	Prematurity, Hyaline membrane disease
F	15 hours	Prematurity, Hyaline membrane disease
M	15 hours	Prematurity, respiratory distress
M	2 days	Meningomyelocoele
M	3 weeks	Mongolism, congenital deformities

CAUSES OF DEATH

All Causes:	Total	Male	Female
	182	82	100
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity, etc.	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	16	5	11
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	2	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	5	-	5
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	2	2	-
Leukaemia	2	2	-
Other malignant neoplasms	9	4	5
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1	-	1
Diabetes mellitus	3	1	2
Mental disorders	1	-	1
Other diseases of nervous system	2	1	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	2	1	1
Hypertensive disease	8	3	5
Ischaemic heart disease	25	15	10
Other forms of heart disease	7	2	5
Cerebrovascular disease	32	10	22
Other diseases of circulatory system	5	3	2
Influenza	5	3	2
Pneumonia	16	8	8

Causes of death (Continued):	Total	Male	Female
Bronchitis and emphysema	9	5	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1	2
Appendicitis	1	1	-
Cirrhosis of liver	1	1	-
Other diseases of digestive system	2	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	2	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	1	-
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	1	-	1
Congenital anomalies	1	1	-
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	6	3	3
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	5	1	4
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	2	2	-

Age Incidence of deaths from certain causes

		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+
Cancer of breast	M										
	F							1	1	1	2
Cancer of Lung	M								1		1
	F										
Coronary thrombosis	M						3		2	5	5
	F								1	4	5
Cerebral thrombosis (stroke)	M								2	4	4
	F									5	17
Pneumonia	M								2		6
	F						1			2	5
Accidents	M										1
	F		1					1			3
Suicide	M									2	
	F										

SECTION B

1. Public Health Staff:

Dr. E. Kinnear, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Part-time Medical Officer of Health who
also serves other districts.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector
J.A.E. Burrows, Cert.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Surveyor and Public Health Inspector
I.C. Hazell, F.I.A.S., Cert.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector, whole-time
M. Crisp, Cert.P.H.I.E.B., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Chemist/Manager, whole-time
A.B. Worth, H.N.C. (Chem.)

Building Inspector, whole-time
P.D. Cutmore, M.I.B.C., Licentiate I.A.A.S.

2. Ambulance Facilities:

The West Suffolk County Council is responsible for the ambulance service. There is an Ambulance Station in Sudbury.

3. Nursing in the Home:

The West Suffolk County Council's Home Nursing and Midwifery service supply six District Nurses.

4. Child Welfare Centres:

The West Suffolk County Council provides four Child Welfare Centres in the District at Long Melford, Great Cornard, Glemsford and Nayland. Mothers from Melford District also use the Health Clinic in Sudbury.

5. Chiropody Services:

Chiropody Services for elderly persons are arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health in conjunction with the West Suffolk Old People's Welfare Association. A domicillary service is available for those unable to reach a clinic.

6. Laboratory Facilities:

The Public Health Laboratory Services, Woodbridge Road East, Ipswich, under its Medical Director Dr. P.K. Frazer, has provided bacteriological reports on water samples and other materials and advised on epidemiological matters.

Chemical analyses of water samples are performed by the Council's analysts at the Analytical Laboratory, Haywoods Heath, Sussex.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47:

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and protection.

Action was required in the case of one elderly, chronically sick and incapacitated woman, living alone.

The necessary documents were also signed for another greatly handicapped woman living alone, but she was persuaded by the kindness and sympathy shown by the Magistrate and the Clerk to the Justices, to go into hospital voluntarily.

SECTION C

REPORT OF MR. J.A.E. BURROWS

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

SEWER CONNECTIONS:

The following table shows the number of sewer connections made during the year, and the overall position at the end of the year.

As some connections may be made without our knowledge this table should not be taken too literally.

(Sewer Connection Table overleaf)

SEWER CONNECTION TABLE

PARISH	New Connections 1970	No. of properties on line of sewer	Number Connected	%
Nayland	8	398	380	95.5
Stoke-by-Nayland	10	252	221	87.7
Long Melford	87	1070	1005	93.9
Acton	12	201	198	98.5
Bures St. Mary	-	195	187	95.9
Great Waldingfield	9	261	245	93.9
Chilton (Chilton Corner)	-	26	25	96.2
Little Waldingfield	-	112	106	94.6
Newton	7	129	106	82.2
Little Cornard	3	20	18	90
Great Cornard (To Cornard Works)	124	1996	1972	98.8
Chilton (Industrial Site) (To Cornard Works)	2	8	8	100
Great Cornard (To Sudbury Works)	1	120	111	92.5
Chilton (To Sudbury Works)	-	22	22	100
Glemsford	7	678	630 *	92.9
Hartest	3	131	103	78.6
Stanstead	3	98	82	83.7
Boxted	-	25	24	96
Alpheton	5	55	33	60
Lawshall	11	210	148	70.5
Shimpling	5	92	65	70.6
TOTALS:	297	6099	5689	93.3

* Includes 29 with only sink connections, No W.C.

EMPTYING OF PRIVATE CESSPOOLS:

The following table gives the number of emptying in parish order, showing a reduction of 97 emptyings on the previous year. This reflects the coming into operation of the Northern Area Sewerage Scheme. The figure for Leavenheath continues to rise.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING TABLE 1970

Acton	40
Assington	27
Alpheton	4
Boxted	3
Bures	22
Chilton	14
Great Cornard	14
Little Cornard	61
Glemsford	24
Hartest	7
Lawshall	14
Leavenheath	164
Long Melford	11
Nayland-with-Wissington	20
Newton	17
Shimpling	6
Somerton	2
Stanstead	1
Stoke-by-Nayland	21
Great Waldingfield	13
Little Waldingfield	4
	489

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967:

55 Cars or car bodies were removed, 8 of them after service of statutory notices. This is an increase of almost three times on the number removed the year before.

MEAT INSPECTION:

There are three retail butchers and one wholesale/retail butcher with licensed slaughterhouses. One of the retail butchers did not kill throughout the year.

		CATTLE	CALVES	SHEEP LAMBS	PIGS	GOATS
TOTAL slaughtered		2840	28	3479	6009	33
TOTAL inspected		2840	28	3479	6009	33
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis	Whole carcases condemned	1	2	1	55	-
	Number of carcases part of which was condemned	563	4	26	613	2
	% affected	18.11	21.43	0.78	11.12	6.06
Tuberculosis only	Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
	Number of carcases part of which was condemned	-	-	-	105	-
	% affected	-	-	-	1.75	-
Cysticercosis only	Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
	Number of carcases part of which was condemned	17	-	-	-	-
	% affected	0.60	-	-	-	-

INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS:

The following were condemned:-

Tinned Apples (Mould Growth)	10 lbs. 2 oz.
Legs of Pork (Decomposition)	50 lbs.
Tinned Peaches (Blown and split tins)	6 lbs. 8 oz.
Margarine (Contaminated)	24 lbs.
Imported Shelled Walnuts (Moth infested)	55 lbs.
Tinned tomato purée (Blown)	25 lbs.
Tinned Cherries (Blown)	1 lb. 14 oz.
Tinned ox tongue (Decomposition)	6 lbs.
Tinned cured veal (Decomposition)	30 lbs.

FOOD HYGIENE:

204 Visits were made to general food premises and 7 vehicles were inspected.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963:

48 Visits to registered premises were made. No serious contraventions were observed. No accidents were reported. Employers co-operated satisfactorily in securing compliance with the Act following informal notices.

Class	Premises Registered during year	Total No. Premises Registered	Number of first inspections	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	1	13	-	99
Retail Shops	3	42	3	126
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	-	1	-	9
Catering Establishments and Canteens	1	11	4	92
Fuel Storage Depots	-	1	-	2
TOTALS:	5	68	7	328

RODENT CONTROL:

No change in the routine inspection and treatment work carried out by the Rodent Operator. The destruction of wasps nests was continued and during the summer of 1970 47 wasps nests were destroyed.

HOUSING:

109 Private dwellings were completed during the year, distributed throughout the District as follows:-

Long Melford	33
Great Cornard	23
Glemsford	11
Great Waldingfield	10
Acton	8
Alpheton	5
Lawshall	4
Nayland	3
Newton	3
Little Cornard	2
Stanstead	2
Leavenheath	1
Hartest	1
Bures	1
Stoke-by-Nayland	1
Chilton	1

G.L.C. Development continued at Great Cornard and 100 houses and 5 shops were completed ready for "hand-over".

477 Proposals under the Town and Country Planning Acts and/or the Building Regulations were received.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS:

Standard Grants

22 Dwellings were improved with the help of Standard Grants. The total cost of the works done was £10,962 of which the owners recovered £4,542 in Grants. The average cost per dwelling was £498 with Grant Aid of £206.

Discretionary Grants

14 Dwellings were improved with the help of Discretionary Grants. The total approved expenses was £30,889 ranging from £690 to £3,316 per house. The maximum permissible grants were given in all cases, totalling £12,870.

HOUSING ACT, 1969:

7 Demolition Orders, 9 Closing Orders were made and 2 undertakings not to let the houses concerned until rendered fit were accepted. In addition 3 Closing Orders previously made were converted to Demolition Orders.

NUISANCES:

One statutory notice to abate a nuisance was served and complied with.

SECTION D

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases

	Total	Male	Female
Scarlet Fever	55 (48)	33 (24)	22 (24)
Whooping Cough	14 (9)	5 (2)	9 (7)
Measles	103 (403)	47 (221)	56 (182)
Food Poisoning	1	1	-
Tuberculosis, respiratory	4 (3)	2 (2)	2 (1)
Totals:	177 (488)	88 (261)	89 (227)

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis in 1970.

SECTION E

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

I. Inspections for the purpose of Provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities.	59	42	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	42	-	-
TOTAL:	59	84	-	-

II. Cases in which DEFECTS were found = Nil

III. Part VIII - OUTWORKERS:

Nature of Work	Number
Making wearing apparel, etc.	3
Making firework casings	10
Other	1
TOTAL:	14